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in the united states patent and trademark office

Applicants: Rene Becker, et al.

Examiner: Unassigned

Serial No.:

Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed:

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Docket:

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For:

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Dated:

June 19, 2006

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Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria. VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

- European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0104449 A2, dated April 4, 1984;
- 2. United States Patent No. 6,252,902 B1, issued June 26, 2001 to Simeon et al.;
- 3. United States Patent No. 6,173,018 B1, issued January 9, 2001 to Kuroki; and
- 4. PCT International Publication No. WO 02/21782 A3, dated March 14, 2002.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Paul J. Esatto, Jr.

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The references were cited in the International Search Report dated April 4, 2005, of a corresponding International PCT Application. Applicants are submitting copies of the above-cited references, together with a copy of the Search Report. The relevance of the above-identified references has been described in the Search Report.

In accordance with the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003, applicants are not required to submit copies of the above-cited U.S. Patent references.

The undersigned attorney hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul J/Esatto, Jr. Registration No. 30,749

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| Form PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (REV. 7-80) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | | | | | Docket No. (Optional) | Application Number | | | | | |
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